

July 27, 1959

TOP SECRET

Dear Chris:

It appears to me that Dillon's recent telegram to you has cleared up whatever confusion there was in your mind concerning any possible difference between the expression I used concerning the "rights in Berlin" and the June 16th statement, "The Ministers agree that unless subsequently modified by 4-power agreement, these arrangements will continue until the reunification of Germany."

NEW SUBJECT. I have received Harold Macmillan's message urging me to "call a Summit meeting" at an early date. Harold's entire message starts off with the statement, "If the formula of the Western proposal of June 16th is taken as a basis that should be good enough for us." I have not been informed that the Soviets have unequivocally agreed to the proposals of the June 16th statement. Consequently the further proposals made by Harold seem to me to be largely hypothetical.

I am somewhat puzzled by his impatience to get a Summit meeting started, unless he has more assurances than I have that real results will be achieved from such an exercise. However, I have always made it clear that I would participate in such a meeting when and if real progress was in prospect as indicated by the results of the Foreign Ministers meeting.

Respecting the timing and location of such a meeting, if one is thus authorized, I have already announced my position that these details might

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be agreed upon by the Foreign Ministers Conference. Of course I suppose there would be consultation with the respective governments. In the absence of such assurance, I cannot see how I could in accordance with my previously stated position and on my own initiative, as suggested by Harold, "invite" Heads of Government to such a conference.

Respecting timing, another complication may be found in Mr. Khrushchev's reluctance to come to the United States during our hot weather period. Harold would like to see a Summit meeting held beginning by the end of August. Should Mr. Khrushchev desire to visit this country prior to a Quebec Summit meeting, he would therefore obviously prefer a later date. Moreover, I have heard from Moscow that he is planning a period of rest and relaxation for the near future.



As I understand it, you have now seen the details of Harold's message and you will note that he expresses also a readiness to participate in a Summit meeting in November, but I am quite sure that if Khrushchev and I are to meet he, Khrushchev, would not want to agree that the personal meeting should be delayed until that late date.

All of this poses something of a dilemma, but one that I think need not become an impossible one. Dillon will be cabling you later.

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In the meantime I think that everything hinges on the reasonable assurance that we may actually achieve some progress at the Foreign Ministers meeting.

With warm regard,

As ever,

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